

## CABINET

MINUTES of a meeting of the Cabinet held on 29 June 2004 at 10.00 am at County Hall, Lewes.

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14. PRESENT - Councillor Jones (Chairman)  
Councillors Glazier, Lock, Reid, Mrs Stroude, Tidy and Mrs Waite

The following members spoke on the items indicated:

Councillor Barnes	-	items 20 and 21
Councillor Bentley	-	Item 24
Councillor Bridger	-	items 21 and 30
Councillor Daniel	-	items 20 and 30
Councillor Field	-	item 20 and 26
Councillor Gadd	-	items 20 and 27
Councillor Garvican	-	item 20
Councillor Kramer	-	items 20 and 26
Councillor Rogers	-	item 21
Councillor Simmons	-	item 20
Councillor Tutt	-	items 19 and 27

Also present: Mr R Grant (Audit Commission) – for item 5, Mr J Taylor – Denominational Representative on Education and Libraries Scrutiny Committee – for item 6

### 15. MINUTES

15.1 RESOLVED – to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2004 as a correct record.

### 16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

16.1 Councillor Barnes declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 7 as Chairman of the Bexhill and Rother Primary Care Trust

16.2 Councillor Field declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 6 as a governor of Claverham Community College.

16.3 Councillor Glazier declared personal, non-prejudicial interests in item 6 as a former governor of Thomas Peacocke School and in item 7 as a non executive Director of the Bexhill and Rother Primary Care Trust.

16.4 Councillor Kramer declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in item 6 as her daughter was a student at Helenswood School.

16.5 Councillor Lock declared a personal, prejudicial interest in item 6 as a Governor of William Parker School. Councillor Lock left the meeting room and took no part in the discussion during consideration of this item.

## 17 NOTIFICATION OF URGENT BUSINESS

17.1 The Chairman reported that he was to take the Education and Libraries Scrutiny Committee's Review of Post 16 Education in Hastings and Rother (item 6a on the agenda) as urgent business as the report needed to be considered with the report by the Director of Education and Libraries on the outcome of consultation. The report had not been circulated with the agenda as the Committee did not have all the necessary information necessary to enable it to complete its report in time to meet the statutory deadline for publication.

## 18. REPORTS

18.1 Copies of the reports referred to below are included in the minute book.

## 19. EXTERNAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION PLAN 2004/05

19.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources.

19.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to approve the External Audit and Inspection Plan for 2004/05.

### REASON

19.3 To agree the Audit and Inspection Plan for 2004/05.

## 20. REVIEW OF POST 16 EDUCATION IN HASTINGS AND ROTHER

20.1 The Cabinet considered a report of the Education and Libraries Scrutiny Committee together with a report by the Director of Education and Libraries and comments by the Headteachers, which were tabled at the meeting, on the report to the Cabinet report.

20.2 On the motion of Councillor Glazier (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to note and welcome the contents of the Scrutiny Committee's report;  
and

(2) to advise the Council of Sussex Learning and Skills Council that the Cabinet supports the revised proposal from the Project Board, subject to the detailed recommendations summarised in paragraph 57 of Appendix 1 to the Director's report.

### REASON

20.3 The Project Board's proposal offers the best prospect of securing strategic improvements in post 16 arrangements in the Hastings and Rother area which will improve opportunities for students and contribute to social and economic regeneration.

## 21. THE CHILDREN BILL: IMPLICATIONS FOR EAST SUSSEX

21.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive, together with Appendix 1 and 2 to Annex 1 which were tabled at the meeting.

21.2 On the motion of Councillor Jones (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to agree that the County Council explores with local National Health Service (NHS) partners options for developing a 'Children's Trust' for the commissioning and strategic planning of children's services, including the possible early establishment of a shadow Trust executive to develop an appropriate model for East Sussex;

(2) to agree that the model developed should be consistent with the principles set out in Annex 1 and, in particular, the initial focus of the Trust's work should be confined to the priorities established in the East Sussex Children and Young People's Strategic Plan;

(3) to agree that a seminar on the implications of the Children Bill should be arranged for September/October for County Councillors; the Chairmen, Non-Executive Directors and Chief Executives of NHS Trusts; and Leaders and Chief Executives of District Councils;

(4) to agree that further reports be made to the Cabinet following this consultation, outlining proposals for the development of a Trust, the future managerial leadership of Children's Services and other aspects of the Council's organisation affected by those proposals, particularly those referred to at 5 (i) – (iv) in Annex 1;

(5) to agree that the tools for information sharing across agencies developed through the trail blazer identification, referral and tracking project, including the new electronic Children's Services Index, should be extended across the County; and

(6) to agree that a new joint commissioning partnership should be established for the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) to oversee the use of funds provided for the service by both the NHS Primary Care Trusts and the County Council, supported until March 2006 by a new CAMHS Commissioning and Development Manager.

#### REASON

21.3 To agree to discussion with partners in the National Health Service about options for establishing a Children's Trust in East Sussex.

#### 22. COUNCIL PLAN 2004/05

22.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Law and Performance Management.

22.2 On the motion of Councillor Jones (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to recommend the County Council to approve the final Council Plan 2004/05.

#### REASON

22.3 To achieve the development of a sound medium term planning strategy and the publication of the Council Plan.

#### 23 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP POLICY

23.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Chief Executive.

23.2 On the motion of Councillor Jones (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to adopt the Corporate Sponsorship Policy and the ‘Guide to Raising Sponsorship’; and

(2) to agree the level of authorisation for sponsorship deals as set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report.

REASON

23.3 To approve the Corporate Sponsorship Policy.

## 24 INTEGRATED COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT SERVICES

24.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Social Services.

24.2 On the motion of Councillor Mrs Waite (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED -

(1) to agree to the Council, as lead commissioner, entering into a pooled budget agreement with the four Primary Care Trusts in East Sussex (Bexhill and Rother PCT, Eastbourne Downs PCT, Hastings and St Leonards PCT and Sussex Downs and Weald PCT) to support the contract for the Integrated Community Equipment Service provision; and

(2) to authorise the Director of Social Services, in consultation with the Director of Law and Performance Management, to agree the terms of the inter agency agreement with the Primary Care Trusts.

REASON

24.3 An Integrated Community Equipment Service will provide an equitable and quality service to service users and their carers in East Sussex.

## 25 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT – DRAFT SCHOOL TRANSPORT BILL

25.1 The Cabinet considered a joint report by the Director of Education and Libraries and the Director of Transport and Environment.

25.2 On the motion of Councillor Glazier (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to note the content of the report; and

(2) to agree that the County Council does not apply to be a pilot authority but prioritises the development of individual school travel plans as the most effective way of reducing traffic related to home to school journeys

REASON

25.3 At the present time more will be achieved through prioritising work on school travel plans, rather than involvement in the national pilot scheme, with the aim of meeting the national target of all schools having a School Travel Plan by 2010.

## 26 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ACT 2003 – EDUCATION RELATED PROVISIONS

26.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Education and Libraries.

26.2 On the motion of Councillor Glazier (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED –

(1) to authorise the Director of Education and Libraries to consult more widely on the code of conduct for issuing parenting contracts and penalty notices for poor school attendance as set out in Annex A of the report.;

(2) to authorise the Director of Education and Libraries to consult schools and all appropriate agencies on the proposal to adopt a code of conduct on the behaviour provisions of the Anti Social Behaviour Act as set out in Annex B of the report; and

(3) to agree to receive a report from the Director of Education and Libraries at a later date on the outcomes of the above consultation and following further discussion with the Police and other agencies on the use of acceptable behaviour contracts and anti social behaviour orders under the Anti Social Behaviour Act.

#### REASON

26.3 The timely and considered use of parenting contracts, parenting orders and penalty notices could provide schools and the Local Education Authority with further effective measures to raise attendance and reduce exclusion, thus contributing to increasing achievement in school. Due to the impact of implementation of these measures on school policies and resources, and the need to ensure access for parents to a wide range of support and training opportunities, it has been agreed that there should be wide consultation with schools and partner agencies with a further report to be submitted to the Cabinet.

#### 27 TRANSPORT SERVICES

27.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Audit and Best Value Scrutiny Committee on the Best Value review of Transport Services, and a report by the Director of Transport and Environment with observations on the Scrutiny Committee's report.

27.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED -

(1) to note and welcome the Scrutiny Committee's report; and

(2) to recommend the County Council to welcome the main recommendations set out in the Scrutiny Committee's report and to approve the response of the Director of Transport and Environment to the recommendations and their implementation.

#### REASON

27.3 The implementation of the recommendations of the Best Value review build on the current actions being taken and will improve transport services in East Sussex.

#### 28 LOCAL TRANSPORT PLAN ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2003/04

28.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment.

28.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED -

(1) to approve the draft Local Transport Plan Annual Progress Report for 2003/04 and the supplementary bids for submission to the Government Office for the South East; and

(2) to authorise the Director of Transport and Environment , in consultation with the Lead Member for Transport and Environment, to make any appropriate detailed amendments to the Annual Progress Report prior to its submission.

#### REASON

28.3 The County Council is required to report on progress in implementing the Local Transport Plan annually in an annual progress report.

#### 29 SOUTH EAST PLAN – SUB REGIONAL POLICIES

29.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Director of Transport and Environment

29.2 On the motion of Councillor Lock (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to advise the South East England Regional Assembly that:

(1) the South East Plan should include policies to address the special circumstances of the Sussex Coastal Towns and London – Brighton sub regions;

(2) it endorses the officer comments submitted during the Spring Debates and would wish these to be taken into account in development of the South East Plan;

(3) the economic and social issues of the county's rural areas need to be addressed and not hidden by generic regional policies for the rural areas or the dominance of policy for the urban areas; and

(4) it is very important that the South East Plan programme provides adequate community engagement and 'ownership'.

#### REASON

29.3 To agree the need to advise SEERA that the South East Plan should include policies for specific sub regions for the reasons outlined in the report

#### 30 CORE BACK OFFICE SYSTEMS SOLUTION - UPDATE

30.1 The Cabinet considered a report and a presentation by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources.

30.2 On the motion of Councillor Tidy (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the report.

#### REASON

30.3 To note the progress with the implementation of the Core Back Office Systems Solution

31 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES: ANNUAL REPORT AND OPINION

31.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources.

31.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to note the internal audit service's opinion on the Council's control environment.

REASON

31.3 To note the Internal Audit Service opinion on the effectiveness and efficiency of the Council's internal control system which is part of the evidence that underpins the Statement of Internal Financial Control which forms part of the Statement of Accounts.

32 INTERNAL AUDIT STRATGEY 2004/07 AND ANNUAL PLAN

32.1 The Cabinet considered a report by the Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Corporate Resources

32.2 On the motion of Councillor Reid (duly seconded) it was RESOLVED – to agree the Council's Internal Audit Strategy 2004/07 and Annual Plan.

REASON

32.3 To approve the Internal Audit Strategy and Annual Plan.

33. ITEMS TO REPORT TO THE COUNTY COUNCIL

33.1 The Cabinet agreed that agenda items 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 14 be reported to the County Council.

*[Note: The items being reported to the County Council refer to minute numbers 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27 and 28.]*